

STATE OF ARIZONA

Joint Legislative Budget Committee

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December 20, 2005

TO: State Agency Directors

RE: BUDGET HEARING SCHEDULE

We would like to invite you to attend the upcoming Appropriations Committee hearings. To ensure the maximum coordination of the hearing process, we have asked the JLBC Staff to establish the hearing schedule, which you will find attached.

We will hold separate House and Senate full committee hearings for 9 of the largest budget units. In the full committee hearings, the JLBC Staff will be prepared to make an initial presentation. The agency should be prepared to follow them. If your agency is scheduled for one of these hearings, please be prepared for a possible presentation of no more than 15 minutes. Any presentation should focus on the major budget issues of concern to you.

All other agencies will have their budget hearings before a joint House and Senate Appropriations Committee. The joint full committees will hold their meetings on Tuesday mornings and Thursday afternoons. If your agency is scheduled for a joint committee meeting, please be prepared for a possible presentation of no more than 10 minutes. As with the other agencies, your presentation should focus on the major budget issues of concern. If we do not complete the hearings on Tuesday and Thursday, we will finish our work on Friday.

Smaller agencies will be placed on a consent agenda and will not have a hearing. We will adopt the JLBC Recommendation for all consent agenda agencies. Any Appropriations Committee member can have an agency pulled from the consent agenda. If you disagree with the JLBC Recommendation and desire greater scrutiny of your agency by the Appropriations Committee, you will need to have an Appropriations Committee member request that your budget be pulled from the consent agenda. That request must be filed with the Director of the JLBC Staff by January 20th. Your budget would then be heard by the joint full committee.

Because of our time frames, we plan few deviations from the attached schedule. As a result, we hope that you will be available at your scheduled time. While testimony will usually be taken from the public, we will need to carefully monitor our time and may ask groups of individuals to designate a spokesman. If you have any questions, please contact your JLBC Staff analyst.

Many agencies received a two-year budget last session. In that circumstance, you will not need to attend the hearings unless a supplemental appropriation is being considered. For all other agencies, we look forward to your participation in the hearing process.

Sincerely,

Representative Tom Boone
Chairman
House Appropriations-B Committee
47th Legislature

Representative Russell Pearce
Chairman
House Appropriations-P Committee
47th Legislature

Senator Robert Burns
Chairman
Senate Appropriations Committee
47th Legislature

TB/RP/RB:lm

Attachments

xc: Richard Stavneak, Director, JLBC